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2	COMMUNITY ZONING APPEALS BOARD - AREA 5
3	MEETING OF THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2012
4	NORMA & JEAN REACH PARK
5	7901 N.W. 176 Street, Miami, Florida
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8	<u>ITEM</u>
9	MIAMI GARDENS COMMONS, LLC
10	(11-077)
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13	Members of the Board
14	<u>Present</u>
15	luan A. Canada Chada
16	Juan A. Garcia, Chair Joanne Carbana, Vice-Chair
17	Leonardo A. Perez Alexander C. Senderoff
18	Ira J. Paul
19	OTAFF
20	STAFF
21	Earl Jones, Clerk Jackie Carranza
22	John Mollmado Apadatant O
23	John McInnis, Assistant County Attorney
24	
25	

1	SPEAKERS & PAGE NUMBERS
3 4 5	Chairman Garcia: 3-4, 7-10, 18-20, 24, 35-41, 44, 46-47, 49-51, 53-56. Vice-Chair Carbana: 3, 19-20, 22-24, 35, 42, 49-56.
7	Councilman Perez: 3 24-27 20-34 26 44
8	Councilman Senderoff: 3-4, 50-53, 56.
9	
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11	
12	STAFF
13	Mr. McInnis: 3, 55. Mr. Jones: 3-5, 56.
14	Ms. Carranza: 8-10,36, 41-44, 50.
15	
16	APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE
17	John Herin: 8-10, 19-20, 22-25, 29-37, 39-47,
18	50, 52-54. Peter Jenkins: 11, 18, 21, 25-29
19	SUPPORTERS
20	
21	None
22	<u>OBJECTORS</u>
23	None
24	
25	

1	(Thorougen the 5.73
2	(Thereupon, the following proceedings
3	"or o mad.")
	Good evening,
4	Ladres and Gentremen. Are the court
5	report and the county attorney present?
6	THE COURT REPORTER: Present.
7	MR. McINNIS: Yes.
8	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you.
9	Ladies and Gentlemen, this meeting of
10	Community Council 5 has come to order this
11	28th day of June 2012.
12	Please, at this time would you rise
13	for the Pledge of Allegiance.
14	(Thereupon, the Pledge of Allegiance
15	was had.)
16	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: You may be seated.
17	Staff, would you please call the
18	roll.
19	MR. JONES: Vice Chairwoman Carbana?
20	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Present.
21	MR. JONES: Councilman Paul?
22	COUNCILMAN PAUL: Present.
23	MR. JONES: Councilman Perez?
24	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Present.
25	MR. JONES: Councilman Senderoff?
	- Journal Sender UT!

1 COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: Present. 2 MR. JONES: Chairman Garcia? 3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Present. MR. JONES: We have a quorum. 4 5 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you. 6 Those of you present, who wish to 7 speak this evening, must stand and the 8 court reporter will swear you in. 9 (Thereupon, individuals seeking to give testimony in this matter were duly 10 11 sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, after which the 12 13 following transpired:) CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Those of you who 14 are lobbyists should have registered with 15 the Dade County Clerk of the Board's 16 Office prior to this hearing. 17 18 At this time, is there anyone present who wishes to defer or withdraw an 19 application? If so, please come forward 20 at this time and state your name and 21 22 address for the record. 23 No one moving. We'll move on. Okay. There are no deferrals or withdrawals at 24 25 this time.

Staff, for the record, please read
the Department's introductory statement.

MR JONES: "In accordance with the

MR. JONES: "In accordance with the Code of Miami-Dade County, all items to be heard this evening have been legally advertised in the newspaper, Notices have been mailed, and the properties have been posted. Additional copies of the agenda are available here at the meeting.

Items will be called up to be heard by agenda number and name of applicant.

The record of the hearing on each application will include the record of Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources.

All these items are physically present this evening, available to all interested parties, and available to the Members of the Board, who examine items from the record during the hearing.

Parties have the right of cross-examination.

This statement, along with the fact that all witnesses have been sworn, should be included in any transcript or all or

any part of these proceedings.

In addition, the following departments have representatives present here at the meeting to address any questions: The Department of Public Works & Waste Management, the Department of Regulatory & Economic Resources, the County Attorney's Office.

All exhibits used in presentation before the Board become part of the public record and will not be returned unless an identical letter-sized copy is submitted for the file.

Any person making impertinent or slanderous remarks or becomes boisterous while addressing the Community Zoning Appeals Board shall be barred from further audience before the Community Zoning Appeals Board by the presiding officer unless permission to continue or again address the Board be granted by the majority vote of the Board Members present.

The number of filed protests and waivers on each application will be read

into the record at the time of hearing as each application is read. Those items not heard prior to the ending time for this meeting will be deferred to the next available zoning hearing meeting date for this Board.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Thank you.

Just a little quick explanation of how the meeting is going to go, and so that way we can stay on task and be on time. We have to be out of here by nine o'clock, so hopefully sooner.

When we call your item, please step up to the podium. State your name and address for the record. Then we'll proceed with the presentation.

After that, we will call for anyone supporting the application. Then we'll call any objectors to the application.

Those of you that wish to speak, state your name and address for the record. And I would ask that the ones that are making a presentation or speaking, just keep it to the point, concise, so that way we'll have enough

time to get through it and get done with 1 all the items that we have on the agenda. 2 With that being said, staff, would 3 you please call the first item. 4 (Thereupon, other matters not related 5 to this cause were heard, after which the 6 7 following transpired:) 8 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Next item. MS. CARRANZA: Item Number 1, Miami 9 Gardens Commons, LLC, Zoning Hearing 10 11 Application Number 11-077. 12 MR. HERIN: Give me one moment. 13 MS. CARRANZA: If I may, through the Chair. 14 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: 15 Yes. 16 MS. CARRANZA: I have a point of clarification on this item. 17 On the handwritten Page Number 4, there is a 18 mistake on the second paragraph. 19 It's the last two sentences of the second 20 21 paragraph. If you could just disregard those two sentences. That's from a 22 23 previous version, I guess, of this -- of 24 this recommendation. 25 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Where it starts by

1	saying "staff"?
2	MS. CARRANZA: "Staff opines that
3	since the additional tenant sign," yes.
4	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. So scratch
5	all that out?
6	MS. CARRANZA: All that. From that
7	to the end of that paragraph.
8	MR. HERIN: Which one?
9	MS. CARRANZA: Handwritten Page
10	Number 4.
11	MR. HERIN: Yes.
12	MS. CARRANZA: The last two
13	sentences. If you could disregard it,
14	that's a mistake. That's an error.
15	MR. HERIN: Of which paragraph?
16	MS. CARRANZA: Of handwritten Page
17	Number 4, the second paragraph, the last
18	two sentences where it starts, "Staff
19	opines that since the additional tenant
20	sign"
21	MR. HERIN: Okay.
22	MS. CARRANZA: Thank you.
23	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Does that
24	those two sentences relate to any of the
25	conditions?

1 MS. CARRANZA: No, it doesn't relate 2 to the conditions. What it is, it's just a mistake. 3 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Oh, okay. 4 MS. CARRANZA: It's taken care of in 5 6 the next paragraph --7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Oh, okay. MS. CARRANZA: -- when we discuss 8 those two conditions. It's just to 9 10 disregard those two sentences. 11 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: No problem. Just 12 wanted to make sure if there's any So if there isn't, then --13 correlation. 14 MR. HERIN: Good evening, Members of 15 the Council. I really appreciate the 16 opportunity to be here this evening. My name is John Herin with address at 17 18 1221 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1600, Miami, I'm here on behalf of the 19 Florida. 20 applicant, Miami Gardens Commons, LLC, 21 that is seeking, as the cover page 22 indicates, a request for zoning and 23 various non-use variance applications. 24 I have along with me here this 25 evening, starting here, Mr. Gutierrez, who is the project architect; Peter Jenkins, who happens to be the General Counsel for ITT, who's travelled from Indiana to be here this evening to hear this

application.

I have Mr. Porris and Mr. Padron, who are representatives of the property owner as well as the applicant here this evening as well.

We're here in support of the staff recommendation. We're requesting that you adopt that.

We do have two questions or two issues with those that are -- would relate to the two non-use variances that the staff is recommending denial. If you turn to the information that I've handed out, it's really just a -- for your easy reference, the code section dealing with non-use variance and the standards, it talks about compatibility.

The two non-use variance applications that we have requested and staff has recommended denial deal first with the issue of signage on the building in

question. And the building is on 183rd Street just west of 57th Avenue. It's there; it's built; and it's currently zoned IU-C.

What's being proposed -- and the reason for the rezoning and the variance is because what's being proposed, as a tenant there, is ITT University, in order to provide for a private college at this location. They're taking the vast majority of what is now an empty building. And want to operate an ITT vocational university in accordance with the same process that they have throughout the country.

Because of that, the current IU-C zoning is required to now convert to BU-2. It's completely consistent with all the requirements of the Comprehensive Plan and land development relations with respect to the rezoning. And again, staff is recommending approval of that rezoning request.

The issue about the signage is as follows. And this is -- the schematic is

actually in the staff report. Under the code, any tenant in this location is entitled to have at least one sign on the building.

What we're proposing to do is to put ITT in this building as the significant largest tenant and basically occupy the entire building, which would -- which would then give them the right to put one sign on the side of the building.

What we're asking is a variance for them to also put a second sign on the other side of the building over here (indicating).

Now, what you need to note is that under the code, this area that we're asking for this variance is eligible for signage already or anyway. It just may not be for ITT. So, in fact, what we're proposing, what we believe we're doing by you -- asking for this variance, and you all potentially granting it, is we're going to ultimately reduce the amount of overall signage that can otherwise go on this building by placing ITT in this

location.

So, otherwise, as you can see, a sign could go here, a sign could go here, a sign here, here, here, all throughout that balcony across the entire building depending upon how it's subdivided and ultimately rented out. But with one major tenant such as ITT, they would only otherwise be eligible for one sign.

We're asking for the right to be able to have it on the other side as well, and essentially make this a marquee building for this area.

And then the last page -- last three pages of the materials I handed out to you -- and I know that staff may suggest that, you know, just because something is in one location does not necessarily mean that you have to grant the variance here, but by way of example, it is the existing Kaiser University building out on 117th out off the Turnpike in unincorporated area, very near Doral. And as you can see, there's signage on all three sides of that building except the rear. It has the

same type of zoning, same type of development, same type of tenant that we're proposing here. As you can see, it's a marquee.

That building at night -- and I just happened to be travelling past that area Tuesday evening -- you know, it's lit up. It's a beacon. And that's what we would like for this particular building. Not only do we think it's the marquee building for this area for a tenant in a business of this type, but because they do offer evening classes as part of their curriculum. The fact that they will have that signage will allow people to easily locate the building in a rather congested area as well.

So not withstanding the staff recommendation, we are, if fact, asking that you grant that non-use variance. And we do believe that what we're proposing is entirely compatible with the area, and consistent with the criteria, and the code that is before you, and the staff report and in my handout.

The last item that we're asking a variance for, for which staff has recommended denial -- I'll go back to the aerial photograph -- is, again, a function of the rezoning.

Currently under the IU-C, which is a fairly intensive zoning category, whenever an IU-C area is adjacent to a residential area, you're required to put in a greenbelt buffer. In this case, it's an eight-foot-wide buffer. It exists. It's already there, and there's actually a chain link fence on the other side that has been installed by the apartment complex. And they have landscaping on their side as well.

If you follow the staff recommendation, what's going to happen is you're going to have a chain link fence and a greenbelt buffer that extends from 57th Avenue and runs all the way down here (indicating) interrupted by about a 75-foot wall, five feet in height, that's going to stick out like a sore thumb. And I respectfully submit to you that it's

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going to become a beacon for potential vandalism and other types of inappropriate action with regard to that.

And the maintenance that then will have to be undertaken on a regular basis in order to maintain that wall is going to be pretty onerous, particularly when it's also going to inhibit our ability to get to the landscaping that we've already -- that we were required and have already installed on that property.

So from, again, a compatibility standpoint, which is the criteria in the code, I would again respectfully suggest that putting up a wall at this location is actually incompatible with what's all there right now, that exists today, and that will continue to exist.

You're going to have this isolated wall in the back of this property right here (indicating) when none of these other very intense uses have any similar requirement whatsoever and will never have such a requirement.

And, in fact, as you can see from the

aerial of all the buildings and all the uses in this area, this is one that's probably the farthest away from the actual residential area. So not only do you have the existing greenbelt requirement that's been met, you also have a distance separation that's going to serve as a buffer.

And, again, we would suggest to you that if you take a look at the criteria in the code regarding compatibility for non-use variances, this is certainly compatible and this is consistent with the community character.

And we'd ask that you grant that variance as well.

I'm here to answer any questions. We also have, as I said, the individuals related to the project. In particular, if you have any questions about the operational aspect of ITT, Mr. Jenkins can come up and answer any of those questions you may have.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay.

At this time, anyone present wishing

to speak in support of the application? Okay. No one moving. We'll move on.

Anyone present wishing to speak in opposition to this application? Okay. No one moving.

The public hearing is closed.

Council Members, I open up the floor for your questions, comments, concerns, observations, all that good stuff.

MR. HERIN: Johnny Herin, H-e-r-i-n. One last observation that I have with respect to the sign issue. If you look at Section 33-106 of the County Code, it specifically says that "type and number of point of sale signs permitted for a single individual business on a lot will be based on the following formula: If you have 76 to 150 foot of frontage," which this property certainly does, "you're entitled to three signs, one of which may be detached."

And that's permitted point of sale signs in the BU and IU district section of the code.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Any questions?

1 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Mr. Chair? 2 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes. 3 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: I'd like to 4 ask some questions. 5 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes, ma'am. 6 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: You want an extra sign on this building. As you're 7 coming down 183rd or 186th, if you have 8 the sign in the front -- is that where 9 you're putting the sign? On the side? 10 11 MR. HERIN: No, it would be on the 12 side. 13 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: On the 14 side? MR. HERIN: On both sides, on the 15 16 east and west side of the building. 17 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Okay. There's not that much congestion in that 18 area that I can see, but my question is, 19 20 what happens if AT&T decides to either downsize or you get another tenant in 21 22 there? 23 There's not going to be MR. HERIN: much, if any space, left over. ITT is 24 taking virtually the entire -- there's two 25

existing tenants, and -- I'm sorry. Go ahead, Mr. Jenkins.

MR. JENKINS: Peter Jenkins. I'm Counsel and Manager of Real Estate for ITT. My office is 13000 North Meridian Street, Carmel, Indiana.

I just wanted to -- point of fact. We will take the entire first floor of the building and have plans for expansion on the majority of the second floor of the building. There will be some vacant space on the upper floor.

But to answer your question, I think one of the important things to realize about this space is that it's currently designed to be many individual condominium units on each floor. I think as many as eight to 10 on each side.

And part of the reason that we're asking for the additional signage is to make sure that once people are on the site, they understand where we are in relation to all these other individual condominium units that are already in place, and so they can find our entrance

and understand where they're going and where they're going to be.

But my primary purpose was just to clarify what space we were taking in the building.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: But, then, again, you have space that's available. If you decide to bring in another tenant, then what's going to happen with the signage?

MR. HERIN: They would -- they would be entitled to signage that's already provided for under -- again, going back to the elevation schematic, which is, again, a part of your package, the code allows all -- anyone to have a sign anyway. What we're saying is that the sign that would go on the other elevation will no longer be available because ITT will take it. It's allowed for already.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: I understand that. But if you get someone else in --

MR. HERIN: They won't -- no, the agreement is that's it. It will be ITT on

that side, and that's it.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Okay. So another tenant comes in and they don't get a sign?

MR. HERIN: They won't get a sign at that location. If there's other space available, which there are signage here and here (indicating) -- this is, I guess, an architectural feature on the building, if you've been by it.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Right.

It's kind of --

MR. HERIN: So -- but all other entrances will have -- already are entitled to their own signage, if it is compartmentalized as suggested.

The -- I don't mean to misspeak, but one of the ideas is that if this is a successful site for ITT, it may decide to expand and take all the other space, which is -- we already know we'd have to then come in again for an amendment to our existing site plan to provide for that.

So that's -- that really is the long-term plan, is for this to be a

1	success for this community and this area,
2	and that's all that will be there.
3	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: No further
4	questions.
5	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Mr. Chair, if I
6	may?
7	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Go right ahead.
8	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: What's the
9	what's the parking lot count?
10	MR. HERIN: It meets requirements for
11	parking. The total amount of parking
12	is
13	Manny, do you know off the top of
14	your head?
15	MR. GUTIERREZ: Yes, it provides
16	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes, you've got to
17	come up and speak into the mike.
18	MR. GUTIERREZ: I thought so.
19	Manny Gutierrez, Gutierrez and Lozano
20	Architects, 2830 West State Road 84, Fort
21	Lauderdale, Florida.
22	The existing parking provided is 247
23	spaces. And it meets and exceeds
24	what's there now, it meets and exceeds the
25	requirement for the proposed use.
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1 COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Okay. Now, you 2 could have up to 907 students? 3 MR. HERIN: Correct. COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Now, it's not 5 going to be like on a shift? MR. HERIN: 6 Yes. COUNCILMAN PEREZ: What's the hours? 7 8 MR. HERIN: The hours are from --9 MR. JENKINS: I can answer that question again. This is Peter Jenkins, 10 11 again, for ITT. We have three class sessions on a 12 13 daily basis. There are -- there's a morning session from 8:00 to noon, an 14 afternoon session from 1:00 to 4:00, 4:30, 15 and then usually an evening session from 16 17 6:00 to 10:00. Our heavier session is usually in the 18 19 evening. Average age of student is 20 somewhere around 28 years old. Usually a 21 working adult during the day. So they work at their job during the day and come 22 23 to school at night. 24 We usually fit very well into these type of multi-tenant situations where most 25

of the other businesses, if there are any, close their doors before our heavy hours begin.

Typically our general parking requirement is about eight spaces for every thousand square feet in the evening. And the last thing that we want to do is get into a situation where we don't have enough parking for our students, because then we won't have very many.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: And if they're adults, most likely they're going to come in their own vehicles. You might have a few that might have transportation or share a ride with someone, But being they're adults, you're going to have a mass of cars coming in and using the parking lot.

MR. JENKINS: Yes.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: And I'm very, very familiar because -- and I'm in the area a lot, and that particular building has been empty for quite a while.

But I have a concern. I have a lot of concerns. And one of my main concern

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is there's only one way in and one way out. That's Number 1.

Number 2, you cannot go eastbound when you exit the building onto Miami Gardens Drive. You have to go westbound. You have to do a U-turn right in front of the entrance to the Winn-Dixie and the K-mart and the Ross, which I believe is in there, which right now is a nightmare.

MR. JENKINS: Right.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Further west, I believe that's 62nd Avenue, I'm not too sure, a traffic light -- a traffic light was supposed to be installed many years ago, and it's not there.

Miami Gardens Drive, last I checked, was Class "D" as far as traffic flow.

That's almost the worst. Adding -- I don't know how many students might show up between these classes, a couple hundred, maybe 300?

MR. JENKINS: I think that would be on the high end for 300. The way that we utilize our space, not all of those seats can be filled at any one time.

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COUNCILMAN PEREZ: What's your capacity in the classroom at one time?

MR. JENKINS: I don't know how to answer that question specifically, because we don't know what programmatic offerings we're going to have yet, because we haven't recruited students to that location. We respond to the community's need, what the employers in the area would like to see, what kind of demand there is for certain programs before we schedule them.

But typically what will happen is that one session of students will have to rotate between several different classrooms to complete their coursework in that any one session. So you don't fill up all the rooms, because the different functions -- there are different functions for different rooms in the space. And you don't use that simultaneously.

To answer your question about ingress and egress, I was out at the site today and noted that this driveway here (indicating) appears to have originally

been designed to connect into the space and provide a second means of egress from the facility.

And all that would need to be done is, you know, make the curb cut to have that connection. And that would give a second means of egress directly out to Northwest 57th. And anybody who would want to go west on 183rd could come out that way and make the turn.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Yeah, but as we speak, that does not exist.

MR. JENKINS: The drive -- this is all there. All you have to do is make a simple connection between the two.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: But it's when, and who and how.

MR. HERIN: I don't -- John Herin. I don't disagree. You do have the cross access to use this access point as well.

But what I would like to say and remind everyone is that the impacts of this development, including the max use of it, has already been calculated and factored into the traffic for this site.

When this was originally approved several years ago by the County, that traffic generation was taken into account. And you'll see in your staff report that the -- that Public Works has stated that it meets the appropriate level of service, because it's been accounted for.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: But at a --

MR. HERIN: No, at the max build-out.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Right. But let me go back a few years ago. Miami Gardens Drive, if you look east as soon you get to Red Road, and you continue east into Miami Gardens, into the City of Miami Gardens, it turns into a six-lane highway.

We were supposed to get that six-lane highway all the way through -- westbound through I-75.

MR. HERIN: It merges right over there.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Right. It merges right there. And it's a funnel there. And God forbid if there's an accident on the Palmetto. I mean, you cannot go through there. I've seen emergency

vehicles cutting through the swales just to try to get through there. And people -- I mean, it's a nightmare.

The main -- to me, the really main concern is the traffic issue there that's going to happen due to the fact that you're going to have quite a few students. And not only students, you've got faculty. You know, you have other -- other --

MR. HERIN: I don't disagree. I really don't mean to get into -- to argue about this, but if you -- if you didn't have ITT, if you built this out and staffed it completely or occupied it completely with its max available tenancy, you would generate the same amount of traffic at the site.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: But not the same time.

MR. HERIN: Actually, it would -- the peak hours of traffic would congest the road more, because with ITT, it's spread out throughout the day.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Well, what I'm trying to say is, let's say you have

offices in there, and I'm going to visit an office, an accountant, a hair stylist, whatever it may be, there's -- you know, you go there at different hours. You don't go there -- you know, if you got to go to ITT to attend school and it starts at 8:00 p.m. -- 8:00 a.m., you're going to have a flow of traffic getting up there at 8:00 a.m., and they're going to be exiting at 12:00, and at 1:00 and at 6:00, and then leaving those other times.

So you're going to have a mass flow going in at a certain times and a mass flow exiting.

MR. HERIN: You would have the same with the employees and the people who are there at opening time and closing time.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: But the people who do visit that building right now -- I know it's not much, because most of it is empty, but, still, the hours flex. So it's a different comparison as when you have to show up at eight o'clock in the morning to go to school. So you're going to be there between 7:00 and a quarter

'till or so, and so forth and so on.

MR. HERIN: All I -- my -- the only answer -- the only additional answer I can give to that is that the County has already factored that in, and it said that it won't negatively impact --

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Sir, with all due respect, the County has factored a lot of things into this area, especially the immigration area. And that's a long story. And they dropped the ball many times.

MR. HERIN: Fair enough. I -- you know, all I have is what the County itself has said.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: And I totally respect that. And I understand exactly what you're saying. But I travel that road every single day; sometimes over a dozen times. So I'm aware of the traffic issue there, especially if you're trying to leave the shopping center where the Winn-Dixie is. It is horrible. There's not a traffic light there. It's just horrible.

I don't know if you -- you're not from this area, so you're not really familiar at rush hour or in the morning how bad it gets there.

MR. HERIN: Well, I have traveled through the area, and, you know, it's -- there's -- there's not many streets in Miami-Dade County or, for that matter, Broward County, that don't get congested at one point or another.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: True.

MR. HERIN: And, you know, it is what it is, and we deal with that. And, again, all I can say is that, according to the County, that's been factored into their analysis. And, you know, all things -- whether it's ITT or anyone else, God willing, for the benefit of the owner of this building that he's able to ultimately get tenants in there, and staff it out completely, and have a viable income-producing piece of property, it's going to generate traffic.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: I understand what you're saying. It's just the hours where

1 you see the difference. It's all at one 2 time. 3 No further questions, Mr. Chairman. 4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. If I -- I was going to ask for permission to speak, 5 I'm giving myself permission to speak. 6 7 MR. HERIN: Go ahead. 8 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Yes. 9 Please go ahead. 10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Go ahead? 0kay, 11 great. Thanks. 12 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Anytime. 13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Just to --I've been doing this for awhile, and most 14 15 of us up here have also, but I want to 16 make sure that we understand. And, as Council Members, we, you know, are going 17 to ask questions. We have our concerns. 18 We have a right to, you know, to factor in 19 20 a lot of things. 21 But just for the benefit of my fellow Council Members, what we're here to 22 23 determine is -- the conditions for 24 approval have already been set, and the applicant is basically saying that 25

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conditions five and six, he would like to be included in that approval, okay? So that's what we've really got to focus on.

I understand about the traffic. I understand about all these different things, but we really -- what we need to focus on is what they're asking for, which is the sign and the wall.

MR. HERIN: Correct.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I just -- again, I'm just saying that because that's what we really need to focus on. We can ask questions, and you have a right to ask -- and you -- because you -- because you've been on the council, Councilman Perez, for as long as I have. And, listen, you drive that -- I know you drive that road all the time, so it's a concern.

COUNCILMAN PEREZ: But, if I may, and where we clarified, the staff is making a recommendation. And we could change it; am I correct? We don't have to abide by your recommendation?

MS. CARRANZA: That's correct.
CHAIRMAN GARCIA: That is correct.

And what I said was, the whole thing is, the recommendation is based on -- for approval and the conditions, and then the applicant says they're fine with all the recommendations. Nine times out of 10, when staff, you know, approves and gives us conditions, we tend to go with that, because that's -- it makes -- it makes sense. It's staff approval.

But what I'm saying is, what the applicant is asking for is for us to include in the approval conditions five and six. So we need to focus on that five and six and how that affects the whole application.

With that said, I have a question.

Again, I'm going to ask about the signage. Okay. The signage, you're talking about putting in two signs --

MR. HERIN: Correct.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: -- as opposed to one sign, which is what you're allowed to have.

MR. HERIN: Well, I think that there's -- as I indicated before -- sorry.

As I indicated before, I think that there is an interpretative issue as to whether or not there's just one sign as opposed to multiple signs permitted.

But for argument's sake, for the purpose of answering your question, staff is saying there's only one sign permitted. But, yes, we're asking for a mirror second sign on the flip side of the building where a sign is already permitted, but conceivably for use by another tenant, which that tenant would then no longer have that space available. We understand that. We know that. And -- that we, you know, have that limitation.

So a sign -- this sign that's here on this east elevation, we're asking to be also allowed on the west elevation where, as you can see, a sign is already allowed under the Code here. It just would be ITT as opposed to AT&T. If AT&T were to rent out some space here, we would not allow that to happen.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. So based on the Code, it says -- and I'll paraphrase

-- each tenant has one sign. In this case, you're being a tenant, and you're asking for an additional sign.

MR. HERIN: Correct.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Additional signage.

Now, within the building, there's the face of the building; there's the side; the back; all that.

But in the face of the building where you're going to have -- where there's going to be other tenants there, there is the -- there is the capability of putting smaller signage, not the marquee signage, like you called it, where it's on the -- on the higher elevations?

MR. HERIN: That's correct. These other locations would have the ability to put signage on the front of the building, if they rent out that space.

But from the perspective of the proposed use, ITT is going to be occupying the ground floor and the second floor, and that's going to take up all that signage as well.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: So currently right

now there's four -- I would say four 1 2 areas, large areas that you can put the 3 big signs. The marquee signs -- the 4 larger ones. Because you have two in the 5 front, two in the back, correct? MR. HERIN: Yeah. Four. 6 One, two. 7 three, and four. 8 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. 9 MR. HERIN: And one here, which is for the building that's allowed. 10 11 already has that signage up there. 12 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. technically you would put one more in one 13 of these other three places that doesn't 14 15 have the signage? 16 MR. HERIN: That's correct. 17 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: That would leave 18 two other spots for -- if someone in the 19 third floor says, "I want a marquee spot," 20 they would have either those two to choose 21 from. 22 MR. HERIN: That's correct. And 23 that's allowed under the Code. 24 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: No, I understand 25 that.

1 MR. HERIN: Yes. 2 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: So what you're asking for is to allow to be put a second 3 sign where you're only -- at this point 4 5 you're only allowed to put one? 6 MR. HERIN: That's correct. 7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. In regards 8 to -- you made a mention of the ingress 9 and egress. You stated that there's -- if you could put the picture back up, because 10 that's a concern of mine as well. 11 12 you only have technically right now one way in and one way out. And that has to 13 do with, you know, the whole scheme of the 14 15 whole application. 16 Right now, is there an entrance in 17 there or not? 18 MR. HERIN: Back here? 19 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes. 20 MR. HERIN: No, no, there is not. 21 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: What -- and I think this is more for staff's question. 22 23 would need to happen in order to make --24 to open that up? 25 MS. CARRANZA: To open what up?

1 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Where they're 2 saying that there was that street. I 3 don't know if it has a name or number. 4 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: It's just 5 by the auto place. 6 MR. HERIN: There is an -- there is an access point that runs east/west from 7 57th to our property line. Right now it's 8 9 That was -- the site plan that curbed. was approved by the County told us to curb 10 11 I presume. I mean, I don't -that. 12 MS. CARRANZA: So, I'm sorry, for 13 clarification, you're -- you want to open 14 up an entrance on the east side? Is that 15 what you're suggesting? 16 If it's -- if the other MR. HERIN: 17 -- I don't think that we can unilaterally do that not knowing what the approvals for 18 these other properties were, if that's a 19 20 public road. I do not know. 21 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Staff, if I 22 may. 23 If you come off of Red Road, there's 24 a Walgreens on the corner. That's part of -- to come in, in order to do the 25

drive-through for Walgreens and to access 1 2 Walgreens. 3 MS. CARRANZA: Okay. VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: As you go, 4 the next building over is an auto parts 5 6 store. MS. CARRANZA: 7 Correct. VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: All right. 8 9 And what he's saying is, because that road 10 goes there and ends --MS. CARRANZA: At the Auto Zone? 11 12 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: At the -yes, behind the Auto Zone into where their 13 14 property goes. 15 MS. CARRANZA: Um-hmm. 16 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: So he's, I 17 guess, asking, or we are, what would it 18 take in order to open that up to allow 19 another --20 MS. CARRANZA: Oh, an entrance all 21 the way into this property? 22 Well, one of the first things would 23 be, you would have to get approval from 24 those property owners --VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: 25 Right.

MS. CARRANZA: -- in order to go through those properties.

MR. HERIN: That's correct.

MS. CARRANZA: But, now, that's not a part of this application.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: I know that, and I said that. I know that's not part of it. It's just what we're looking at as far as, you know, the whole scheme of traffic in and out just as a Board. And, like, Councilman Perez brought it up, there's a lot -- whether it's ITT, ABC, L, M, N, O, P, whoever it is that's in there is going to have traffic at the same time, but here you have specific pockets of times that you will have more traffic than others.

If it's an office location -- and you know what, it's my opinion that if you're there from 9:00 to 5:00, your -- most of your traffic is going to be at the beginning, 9:00 -- 8:30, nine o'clock and five o'clock. During those median times or middle times, unless there's constant traffic, you're going to have a lull in that movement.

MR. HERIN: Correct.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: And in this case, it would be three times, three different shifts that you would have movement of "X" number of students, whether it's 50, 75 or a hundred, whereas if it was just regular tenants, you would have a different traffic pattern.

Again, that's not part of the application or -- you're not asking for anything that's not already been part of the recommendations and the -- and what's already zoned. And you're following those rules. There's just a concern that we have that we would like to -- again, as the Board, we're voicing.

MR. HERIN: Look, I understand the concern. I think it's a concern of any community council in your position that, you know, how it's going to impact, but at the end -- as I said before, and as you just stated, at the end of the day, theoretically, it's all been accounted for.

If there's anything that we can do,

we try and accommodate, but we're somewhat, as staff said, limited. I don't believe, to the best of my knowledge, that this access point is public. And so we would have to get the approval of those property owners and enter into some kind of a cross-access easement in order to be able to do that. And all it would take is one of those property owners to say no, and we would not be able to do that.

And, again, I don't want to say anything or put words in staff that -- not necessarily with regards to this application, but when this item first came and was approved, that was known by everyone. And we weren't told at that time hey, go ahead and open up that access point there, work it out with the neighbors, or see if you can work it out with the neighbors.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: One more question I have, because you've provided us with this document here that gives us, you know, the sections of what the Code says, or the statutes.

1 If you look at the one -- now we're talking about the wall. 2 3 MR. HERIN: Yes. 4 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. It's Page 1 5 -- the second page. 6 MR. HERIN: Yes. 7 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Where it says 8 Section 33-253.7. 9 MR. HERIN: Yes. 10 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Now, you're asking the Board -- or you're asking for us to 11 12 say, you know, waive that required five-foot, but you've given us the 13 information that says where a business lot 14 abuts -- all that stuff that you can see, 15 16 it says, "masonry wall at least five feet 17 in height shall be erected on the business lots along the common property line 18 19 separating the two districts." 20 Correct. But if you go MR. HERIN: to the next page, which is the current 21 zoning district, it's a more intense 22 23 zoning district than what we're asking. We're actually being -- we're asking for 24 25 the equivalent of a down-zone.

going from industrial to business. And under the industrial zoning classification that this property currently has, we meet the requirements, which I would suggest, and respectfully suggest, are more onerous, which is, as you see down on 33-278.1, "A continuous, extensively planted greenbelt of eight feet in width," which on our side, as well as similarly one on the other side of the apartment complex with chain link fence. That greenbelt runs from 57th all the way to the end of the complex uninterrupted.

And if you put a wall here

(indicating), it just -- it makes no
sense. If you don't have a continuous
wall, like you have a continuous
greenbelt, you're just -- you're a slave
to form over substance, which is there's a
greenbelt that already exists, and it's
been permitted and required to be
maintained, as opposed to, well, the Code
says you need to have a five-foot wall.

That five-foot wall in that location, in the absence of anything on its side to

connect into is going to be the blank canvas in that community for vandalism, I would suggest.

And if talk -- if you now go back to the second page of the handout, that "the non-use variance maintains basic intent and purpose of the land use regulations, particularly as it affects the stability and appearance of the community and will otherwise be compatible with the surrounding land."

I would, again, suggest that if you require a wall to go there in the absence of any other wall next to it, that's not consistent with the community character. And actually granting the variance will maintain the integrity of that area, what's there, what's been approved to date, which has been in existence for years and that we're obligated to maintain anyway.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Mr. Chair? CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Yes.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: I have a question for staff.

1 Is the purpose of that wall to try to 2 stop a lot of the noise from the traffic 3 at the school? 4 MS. CARRANZA: That is one of the 5 reasons, but also it's to bring it up to 6 compliance with BU-2, which is what 7 they're proposing. 8 But the applicant is correct where 9 he's saying that it's not a requirement in 10 the IU-C zoning district. 11 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Thank you. 12 COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: Mr. Chairman? 13 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Hold on a second. 14 So right now I know that it's IU-C. 15 MS. CARRANZA: Correct. Right now 16 it's currently zoned IU-C. 17 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: So right now it's 18 fine. 19 MS. CARRANZA: Right. Right now it's 20 fine, and it's not required. 21 CHAIRMAN GARCIA: But if he changes 22 the zone to BU-2, then that's where the 23 wall comes into effect. 24 MS. CARRANZA: That's correct. That's just because it's part of the 25

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regulations of the BU-2 zoning district.

MR. HERIN: And I would suggest that's the whole reason why you have the non-use variances. For this, to me, is a classic example where everything around it is a greenbelt with a chain link fence on both sides -- the greenbelt is on both sides, the residential side, and the commercial -- and the industrial side. And it goes for thousands of feet. you're now -- and we're going to be a slave to the language in the Code that says for 75 feet with no end -- so people can go around it, noise can go around it -- you're going to have a wall 75 feet in width just because we down-zoned this piece of property. Not up-zoned it, but down-zoned it.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. You had a -- you already had your question.

VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: No. Thank you, staff.

CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Senderoff, sir.

COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: So the

building to the west of that, I know that

there's a -- I believe it's a doctor's 1 2 office. Just if you're facing it to the west, the left side there (indicating). 3 4 MR. HERIN: Right here (indicating)? 5 COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: Yes. What's 6 that behind the building? Is that a wall 7 as well? 8 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: That's a 9 storage. 10 MR. HERIN: No, that's a storage. 11 That's all storage. 12 VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: That's a 13 storage unit. 14 They're all storage. MR. HERIN: 15 These are storage units. 16 COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: Oh, that's the 17 storage facility. Okay. 18 MR. HERIN: These are storage spaces right up against the property line with 19 20 the buffer. This side of the buffer, the 21 south side of the buffer, a chain link 22 fence and the north side of the buffer on 23 the apartment side. And that goes from 24 57th all the way down to the end of the 25 complex on the other side.

1 COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: And you're 2 saying it's on both sides? 3 MR. HERIN: Yes. There's -- and it's in the staff report. Staff went out and 4 verified that. There is landscaping on 5 both sides. We're required to maintain 6 7 There a row of Ficus and other ours. vines that are -- that we're required to 8 install, and we will continue to maintain 9 10 that. 11 That's another reason why we think 12 the variance should be granted. Because 13 if you put up the wall, we're not going to 14 have space to then get in and maintain the landscaping that's already been put in at 15 great expense that the County told us we 16 17 had to put in. COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: And to the 18 19 east of that is another storage facility, 20 correct? 21 MR. HERIN: That's correct. And same 22 thing. COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: Storage units. 23 24 MR. HERIN: As you can see, we're 25 right up against it.

1	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay.
2	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: So they
3	have walls already there?
4	MR. HERIN: No, they don't.
5	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: But, I
6	mean, part of their building is a wall.
7	MR. HERIN: But it doesn't the use
8	is right up against them. We, on the
9	other hand, are a hundred feet to the
10	south parking lot.
11	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Okay. Anything
12	else? Any other questions?
13	Clarifications? I don't see any show of
14	hands or mouths moving.
15	I will definitely entertain a motion
16	at this time.
17	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Mr. Chair, I would
18	like to make a motion to deny the
19	application without prejudice.
20	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Motion on the floor
21	to deny the application without prejudice.
22	Is there a second?
23	No second.
24	Motion dies.
25	Do we have a motion another

1	motion? Can't be the same one.
2	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Can I ask
3	for his clarification on his motion?
4	MR. McINNIS: Sure.
5	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Please, I if
6	you're uncertain, I give plenty of
7	latitude.
8	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Well, I
9	just want to make sure where he's coming
10	from.
11	Mr. Perez, so your motion is
12	encompassing that everything will be
13	denied because of because of the
14	reasons that were brought up today in
15	order to resolve the traffic flow, et
16	cetera?
17	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Correct.
18	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Then I
19	second the motion.
20	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Well, you can't
21	second the motion, because the motion
22	died, but we can re-motion.
23	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: Then I'll
24	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: Restate
25	your motion.
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1	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: restate my
2	motion to deny the application with
3	prejudice.
4	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: And I will
5	second it.
6	MR. JONES: Did you say "with
7	prejudice"?
8	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: With prejudice.
9	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: With?
10	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: With prejudice.
11	MR. JONES: Motion to deny the
12	application with prejudice.
13	Vice Chairwoman Carbana?
14	VICE CHAIRWOMAN CARBANA: For the
15	motion.
16	MR. JONES: Councilman Paul?
17	COUNCILMAN PAUL: For the motion.
18	MR. JONES: Councilman Perez?
19	COUNCILMAN PEREZ: For the motion.
20	MR. JONES: Councilman Senderoff?
21	COUNCILMAN SENDEROFF: For the
22	motion.
23	MR. JONES: Chairman Garcia?
24	CHAIRMAN GARCIA: Against the motion.
25	MR. JONES: Motion passes four to

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                      So the application has been denied
                one.
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                with prejudice.
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                     CHAIRMAN GARCIA:
                                          Okay.
                     (Thereupon, the proceeding was
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               concluded:)
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2	CERTIFICATE OF OATH
3	
4	STATE OF FLORIDA)
5	COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)
6	COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE
7	
8	I, Jannett Taylor-Brown, Court Reporter and Notary Public in the State of Florida, certify that all witnesses personally appeared before me on this 28th day of June,
9	appeared before me on this 28th day of June, 2012, and were duly sworn.
10	2012) and were dary sworn.
11	
12	Comment fresh
13	JANNETT TAYLOR-BROWN Court Reporter
14	Court Reporter Notary Public, State of Florida My Commission # DD947659 My Commission Expires: 12-27-2013
15	rly commission Expires: 12-27-2013
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18	JANNETT TAYLOR-BROWN
19	MY COMMISSION # DD 947659 EXPIRES December 27, 2013
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
SS:
COUNTY OF DADE)

I, Jannett Taylor-Brown, Court
Reporter and Notary Public in the State of
Florida, do hereby certify that a meeting was
held before Community Zoning Appeals Board 5 on
June 28, 2012; and that Item Number 11-077,
MIAMI GARDENS COMMONS, LLC was heard, and that
the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 59,
inclusive, constitute a true and correct
transcript of my stenographic notes.

WITNESS my hand in the City of Miami, County of Dade, State of Florida, this 13th day of July 2012.

JANNETT TAYLOR-BROWN

COURT REPORTER